

Application No.: 10/010389

Docket No.: SMQ-143/P6594

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for calculating the number of valid instructions within a microprocessor, comprising:

advancing instructions along a microprocessor pipeline; and
 edge detecting a transition from a valid instructions to an invalid instruction within the microprocessor pipeline[.]; and
determining the number of valid instructions based on the edge detection of the valid instructions.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for calculating the number of valid instructions within a microprocessor, comprising:

fetching a bundle of instructions; and
~~edge detecting valid instructions within the bundle.~~
edge detecting a transition from a valid instruction to an invalid instruction in the bundle of instructions; and
determining the number of valid instructions up to the transition from the valid instruction to the invalid instruction.

3. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 2, further comprising shifting at least one instruction within the bundle.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, further comprising shifting at least one instruction based at least in part on the number of valid instructions in the bundle.

5. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, further comprising compressing the bundle of instructions.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, further comprising compressing the bundle of instructions for a monotonic instruction bundle.

DO NOT ENTER TM 05/12/2006